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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 360**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTIONS.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop programs to educate the medical community and general public and promote research on pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorder associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS).

These programs must include:

1. a review of existing epidemiological studies of PANDAS within Connecticut and
2. establishing a volunteer panel of PANDAS experts in the clinical and research communities to help develop (a) practice guidelines for the diagnosis, care, and treatment of PANDAS in the state and (b) science-based guidelines for the diagnosis, care, and treatment of PANDAS with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Legislative History***

The Senate referred the bill (File 411) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute that eliminates the provision requiring DPH's PANDAS programs to include (1) clinical awareness programs for physicians and (2) information outreach programs for teachers and the general public. It also requires a volunteer expert

panel, instead of a newly established state liaison, to develop science-based PANDAS guidelines with the NIMH and CDC.

***Related Bill***

SB 956 (File 72), favorably reported by the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, requires (1) DPH to develop similar PANDAS programs and (2) certain health insurance policies to cover the diagnosis and treatment of PANDAS.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/25/2013)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 48 Nay 0 (04/30/2013)